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**Terms of Reference**

**on**

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| **Recognition of Prior Learning Network** |
| **Contact persons (Chairs)**  **Raul Ranne (Estonia), Archimedes Foundation**[-Coordinator](mailto:raul.ranne@archimedes.ee-Coordinator)  **Heather Gibson(Scotland)**  **Ruth Whittaker(Scotland)**  The network is Chaired by Estonia and there is a Steering Board that is coordinating the network and is consisting of three members: the Chair and two representatives from Scotland. |
| **Composition**  Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium/Flemish Community, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Malta, Moldova, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Rectors’ Conference of the Swiss Universities, The Netherlands, Turkey, UK, UK/Scotland, Scottish Social Services Council, European Commission, EUA, EURASHE, UNESCO |
| **Purpose and/or outcome**   * To help promote and inform about practices and effective implementation and use of RPL across the EHEA. * To provide a platform for EHEA countries to share and learn from policies and practices on RPL development within the context of Lifelong Learning, widening participation and workforce development * To build links and partnerships between EHEA countries at various stages in RPL development. |
| **References to the Bucharest Communiqué**   * “We will step up our efforts towards underrepresented groups to develop the social dimensionof higher education, reduce inequalities and provide adequate student support services, counselling and guidance, flexible learning paths and alternative access routes, including recognition of prior learning. “ * „We will work to ensure that the ECTS Users’ Guide fully reflects the state of on-going work on learning outcomes and recognition of prior learning;“ * Fair academic and professional recognition, including recognition of non-formal and informal learning, is at the core of the EHEA; * Work to ensure that the ECTS Users’ Guide fully reflects the state of on-going work on learning outcomes and recognition of prior learning; |
| **Specific tasks**   * Elaborate a strategy on how to develop and promote practice of RPL across the EHEA countries, including measures for removing various limitations leading to the award of complete HE qualifications. * Build links between European countries at various stages in RPL development. * To liaise with other relevant networks and working groups, in particular the BFUG Working Group on Structural Reforms. |
| **Reporting**  The RPL Network has to provide regular update to Structural reforms WG. |
| **Meeting schedule of the RPL Network:**  The Network will meet once per year, more often if required.  The Steering Board will aim to meet once per year before the Network meeting.  13 December 2012, Prague  26 September 2013, Poland  **Other events of the RPL Network:**  14 December ‘EURASHE Seminar on Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL): Flexible Ties within Higher Education’, organized by EURASHE in cooperation with the European RPL Network, the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MŠMT) and the Czech Association of Schools of Professional Higher Education (CASPHE). |